17. Minority Coaching Institute, Patna
18. Al-Momin Coaching & Guidence Centre, Sasaram
19. Buniyad, Patna

UT Admn—Delhi

20. Hamdard Education Society, New Delhi
21. SOFED, Zakir Nagar, New Delhi
22. Delhi Education Centre, Hauz Khas, New Delhi

State—Gujarat

23. Anjuman-E-Talimi Edara Charitable Trust

Welfare Programmes for Backward Classes in Andhra Pradesh

1177. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh had requested for central assistance to the tune of Rs. 135.45 crores for implementation of educational programmes for the backward classes on 30th June, 1996; and

(b) if so, by when the assistance for welfare programmes relating to backward classes is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Three centrally sponsored schemes for the educational upliftment of OBCs viz. Pre-Matric Scholarships for OBCs, Post-Matric Scholarships for OBCs and Hostels for OBC Boys' & Girls' is under implementation from the financial year 1998-99. Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 1.16 crores were released to the Andhra Pradesh Government during the year 1998-99 under the Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship to OBCs.

Assistance to Artisans in Andhra Pradesh

1178. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether request for assistance of Rs. 100 crores through NBCDFC for the benefit of artisans in Andhra Pradesh has been pending since May, 1998; and

(b) if so, the action taken to release assistance early to help the traditional 8 lakh artisans in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Government of Andhra Pradesh through its nominated Channelising Agency Andhra Pradesh Backward Classes Co-op Finance Corporation submitted proposals for Artisan assistance in October, 1998, for a total outlay of Rs. 230.02 crore out of which Rs. 101.54 crore was indicated as share of National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation in the means of finance.

As the project did not conform to NBCFDC guidelines, the SCA was advised to send complete project details in order to ascertain financial viability and technical feasibility of the project.

The SCA finally revised the proposal on 06-03-99 for Rs. 18.15 crore under "ADARNA" scheme. The Corporation appraised the scheme on priority and disbursed Rs. 1738 crore for 30 projects to benefit 104312 Artisan beneficiaries in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Assistance to Residential Schools of SCs and STs in Andhra Pradesh

1179. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether requests for assistance to residential schools and educational institutions relating to SCs and STs in Andhra Pradesh have been received;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to bear the 50% share of primary education for SCs and STs and construction and maintenance of the schools for SCs and STs; and

(c) the measures taken to increase the rate of post-matric scholarships and sharing the 50% expenditure by the Central Government?